

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 325

Supporting efforts to increase childhood cancer awareness, treatment, and research.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2007

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. SALAZAR)
submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee
on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

RESOLUTION

Supporting efforts to increase childhood cancer awareness,
treatment, and research.

Whereas an estimated 12,400 children are diagnosed with
cancer each year;

Whereas cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in
children under age 15;

Whereas an estimated 2,300 children die from cancer each
year;

Whereas the incidence of cancer among children in the
United States is rising by about 1 percent each year;

Whereas 1 in every 330 people in the United States develops
cancer before age 20;

Whereas approximately 8 percent of deaths of individuals between 1 and 19 years old are caused by cancer;

Whereas, while some progress has been made, a number of opportunities for childhood cancer research still remain unfunded or underfunded;

Whereas limited resources for childhood cancer research can hinder the recruitment of investigators and physicians to the field of pediatric oncology;

Whereas the results of peer-reviewed clinical trials have helped to raise the standard of care for pediatrics and have improved cancer survival rates among children;

Whereas the number of survivors of childhood cancers continues to increase, with about 1 in 640 adults between ages 20 to 39 having a history of cancer;

Whereas up to $\frac{2}{3}$ of childhood cancer survivors are likely to experience at least 1 late effect from treatment, which may be life-threatening;

Whereas some late effects of cancer treatment are identified early in follow-up and are easily resolved, while others may become chronic problems in adulthood and have serious consequences; and

Whereas 89 percent of children with terminal cancer experience substantial suffering in the last month of life: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that Con-
- 2 gress should support—
- 3 (1) public and private sector efforts to promote
- 4 awareness about—

1 (A) the incidence of cancer among chil-
2 dren;

3 (B) the signs and symptoms of cancer in
4 children; and

5 (C) options for the treatment of, and long-
6 term follow-up for, childhood cancers;

7 (2) increased public and private investment in
8 childhood cancer research to improve prevention, di-
9 agnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, post-treatment
10 monitoring, and long-term survival;

11 (3) policies that provide incentives to encourage
12 medical trainees and investigators to enter the field
13 of pediatric oncology;

14 (4) policies that provide incentives to encourage
15 the development of drugs and biologics designed to
16 treat pediatric cancers;

17 (5) policies that encourage participation in clin-
18 ical trials;

19 (6) medical education curricula designed to im-
20 prove pain management for cancer patients;

21 (7) policies that enhance education, services,
22 and other resources related to late effects from
23 treatment; and

- 1 (8) grassroots efforts to promote awareness and
- 2 support research for cures for childhood cancer.

